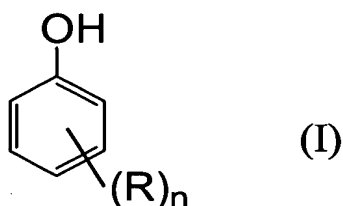
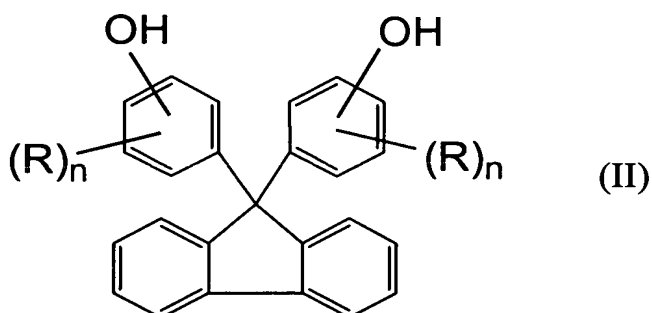


CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a fluorene derivative,
5 which comprises subjecting fluorenone and a phenolic
compound represented by the formula (I):



- wherein R represents an alkyl group, an alkoxy group,
an aryl group or a cycloalkyl group, and n denotes an integer
of 0 to 4,
10 to a condensation reaction in coexistence with a
mercaptocarboxylic acid and a hydrochloric acid to obtain
a fluorene derivative represented by the formula (II):



- wherein R and n have the same meanings as defined
above, and
15 wherein the proportion (weight ratio) of the
mercaptocarboxylic acid relative to hydrogen chloride
contained in the hydrochloric acid [the mercaptocarboxylic
acid/hydrogen chloride] is 1/0.1 to 1/3, and an extractant

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is added to the resulting condensation reaction mixture
to distribute the object compound to the organic layer,
and a crystallization solvent is added to the organic layer
5 to crystallize the fluorene derivative.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the
phenolic compound represented by the formula (I) comprises
phenol or a C₁₋₄alkylphenol.

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3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the
phenolic compound represented by the formula (I) comprises
a 2-C₁₋₄alkylphenol or a 3-C₁₋₄alkylphenol.

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4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the
proportion (weight ratio) of fluorenone relative to the
mercaptocarboxylic acid [fluorenone/the
mercaptocarboxylic acid] is 1/0.01 to 1/0.5.

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5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the
proportion (weight ratio) of fluorenone relative to the
mercaptocarboxylic acid [fluorenone/the
mercaptocarboxylic acid] is 1/0.05 to 1/0.3, and the
proportion (weight ratio) of the mercaptocarboxylic acid
25 relative to hydrogen chloride contained in the hydrochloric
acid [the mercaptocarboxylic acid/hydrogen chloride] is
1/0.3 to 1/2.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the fluorene derivative represented by the formula (II) comprises a 9,9-bis(C₁₋₄alkylhydroxyphenyl)fluorene.

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7. A method for producing a 9,9-bis(4-hydroxy-3-C₁₋₄alkylphenyl)fluorene, which comprises subjecting fluorenone and a 2-C₁₋₄alkylphenol to a condensation reaction in coexistence with
10 β -mercaptopropionic acid and a hydrochloric acid, wherein the proportion (weight ratio) of β -mercaptopropionic acid relative to hydrogen chloride contained in the hydrochloric acid [the mercaptopropionic acid/hydrogen chloride] is 1/0.1 to 1/3, and an extractant is added to the resulting
15 condensation reaction mixture to distribute the object compound to the organic layer, and a crystallization solvent is added to the organic layer to crystallize the fluorene derivative.